CONFIGURABLE WEB-BASED IMAGING SERVICE THAT PREVENTS TIME CONSUMING JOBS FROM PRINTING

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a web-based imaging environment, a user accesses a destination service (e.g.,

5   representing a printer), which retrieves user's imaging data and configures available

production options for a processing job. The user selects desired production options, after

which the destination service estimates the time duration required to process the user's job

based on the selected options. If the estimated time required is greater than a predetermined

threshold, the option of processing is disabled and a message is normally displayed to the

10 user. If not, the option to process is enabled. In variations, the user's ability to process is

reevaluated as the user selects differing options. In other variations, an administrator

specifies the threshold, or specifies multiple user-specific thresholds, and/or thresholds

specific to time of day and/or day of week and/or month. In another variation, if the user

cannot process to this production device, a link to an alternative device is provided.